Anne's Unexpected Proposal, Diana's Surprise, and the Eternal Companionship Vow
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Anne's Unexpected Proposal, Diana's Surprise, and the Eternal Companionship Vow

by lefemmerouge2

Summary

It's Diana's big wedding day with Fred Wright. She'd been waiting and preparing for this day for weeks upon weeks. Everything seems to be going smoothly. Anne has another idea. It's bound to knock Diana's socks off and turn it all upside down. Can they find their happily ever after together? Or will obstacles get in their way? You'll have to read to find out what happens between these two young women who are bosom friends with one another...

Notes

This fic fulfills the "Make it Platonic!" challenge for Flufftober this year, particularly the "Alt 10. And They Lived Happily Ever After" prompt. I've written various other fics for Flufftober this year. Of those, four of them fulfill prompts for this same challenge, particularly: "Alt 8. Moving in Together" ("Coming Home… For Good?: Elena's Unexpected (Royal) Roommate"), "Alt 7: Can I kiss you?" ("A First Time for Everything?: Asako, Iko, and Their Affections"), "Alt 6. First Date" ("Iku's Nervousness, Asako's Joy, and a Date-Not-Date in Kantō), and "Alt 9. Planning the Perfect Proposal" ("Planning for the Big Day: Aoi and Chiaki's Secret Plan") (listed as an inspiration).

My other fic for Flufftober, which I've published this year, entitled "To Be Moon Girl or Not: That is the Question", is more romantic than this one. There is no doubt that this fic is fluff, i.e. feel-good, pleasant works with affection between two-plus characters, in a romantic or non-romantic relationship. I enjoyed writing this. I had to go back to the episode to make sure I had the plot right, then I wrote what happened next. I watched the key scenes from the dubbed version. The blooming tree depicted here is the same one in the series finale, which Rebecca Silverman shows in an image associated with her review. I was inspired to put together the friendship ceremony based on notes by an AO3 user DR_Super_K_Lock for their fic "The Bromance Is Real" saying that "platonic best friend marriage is my new favorite thing," the idea of a so-called "quirk marriage" in the fic "Let All the Lions Threaten Me" (a quirk in the world of My Hero Academia, which is also known as a Meta Ability, is a superhuman power someone can possess, which is unique to each user, and each user can only develop one power or a set of powers but can't achieve any other power through "natural means") or another fic which talks about "best-friend marriage" in the summary.

This fic has been cross-posted on Squidge World, Quotev (chapter 1 uses the title of this fic, and I added "Reaffirming a Promise" as the main title), Wattpad (chapter with fic is entitled

"Anne's Proposal, Diana's Surprise, and the Eternal Companionship Vow"), and Asianfanfiction.

Update: On 5/9/25, I posted an updated/expanded version of this fic on Squidge World, entitled "Anne's Unexpected Proposal, Diana's Surprise, and the Eternal Vow," expanding the text by 280 words to 2,657 words, or about 11.8% more, making it more gay and romantic between Anne and Diana. In fact, considering how the relationship that Anne and Diana was described as a romantic/close friendship, so it was simple enough to update. I had originally wanted to make this more spicy, but did not do so. The version which was posted on a certain site can be read on the Internet Archive.

See the end of the work for more notes

- Inspired by What It Means to Be in a Queerplatonic Relationship by Charity Danker and Ali Garbacz (for wikiHow)
- Inspired by Friendship celebrations [Discussion on Arocalypse] by Erederyn, DivineCyst, roboticanary, vvv, Magni, DeltaAro, PeepsInTheChiliPot, Holmbo, QueerAroAce, mewix, and Intergalactic Indigo
- Inspired by How To Conduct A Ceremony Of Friendship? by Jimmy J. Johnson [for Forever Happy Life]
- Inspired by handfasting ceremony by Wendy Haynes
- Inspired by The Ancient Tradition of Gandharva Marriage: Love and Union by Aagrah Banquet
- Inspired by 12 Vows To My Best Friend As Told By Cristina Yang And Meredith Gray by Hannah Wise
- Inspired by These Are My Best Friend Vows by Amy Shock
- Inspired by Friendship Vows For That Friend You Try To Only See Like, Max, Once A Month by Lillian Stone
- Inspired by You are my best friend wedding vows by Sarah Aird
- Inspired by Anne Shirley Episode 22 [Review] by Rebecca Silverman
- Inspired by Anne of Green Gables Chapter XII by L. M. Montgomery
- Inspired by Finale by Rebecca Sugar
- Inspired by Planning for the Big Day: Rin's Request, Chiaki's Concern, and Aoi's Uncertainty by lefemmerouge2

Everything seemed to be going the way everyone expected. Diana was getting married to a man she had pledged to be with for the rest of her life. This was what her parents, the community in the small town of Avonlea, and society expected of her. It was the *right* thing to do, they reasoned. There was *no* alternative.

Her friend Anne was there to fully support her on this big day, while lamenting that she could *no longer* kiss her as it would be different, since she'd be married. Diana would reassure her friend that there wouldn't be any issue, although Anne wasn't sure about this, and felt that it would be different. Something, undoubtedly, would change. And with all the hurt, death, suffering, and turmoil she had been through in her life, she didn't want to go through any more. She was happy for her friend, but she felt that she was about to lose *something* again.

The day played out the same as it did in the other world. Diana frantically worked to get the old-timey wedding ready. Anne told her that she never believed that the day that she'd be a bridesmaid would come *so soon*. It felt like it hadn't been that long ago that they had been little girls. She started to bawl her eyes out, with Diana telling her that wasn't needed and it would be okay, as tears streamed down her cheek. She even said she'd give Anne her blessing to be with the blah guy named Roy. They hugged one another in a close embrace.

Later that day, she returned to the room and saw Diana in her wedding dress. Anne, who was also wearing a beautiful dress, comforted her friend. She said it was just like she had imagined. She added that Diana was the "bride of her dreams, with a lovely, misty veil." Diana responded happily, with Anne going on to call herself a dedicated, and loyal, bridesmaid. She expressed her concern that Fred Wright was taking Diana away from *her*. She did not want to compromise her needs or her choices. She wanted to remain strong.

Diana reassured her that Fred wasn't taking her away. She said they weren't really parting, that they would still love each other as much as they ever did, something they swore to maintain long in the past. She firmly stated that they always kept that "sweet oath" of friendship and declared they'd continue to be bosom friends no matter what. Anne replied that she was right, noting that they had always kept their oath faithfully, and hoped for it to continue. Even so, she was worried, feeling it wouldn't be the same after Diana was married. She'd have other interests, causing Anne to be left behind.

Seeing her friend crying once again, Diana came close to her, hugging her, and saying she won't be discarded. They had a sweet moment together, with Diana declaring that just because she was being married, that did not mean that she couldn't be *her* bridesmaid. Anne revealed that she would be her friend Phil's bridesmaid later that year and stated that she would never be a bride. Someone apparently couldn't be a bridesmaid at three weddings and be married, according to local lore. At that moment, Anne left their embrace and announced, to her friend, that the minster had arrived.

She couldn't let this moment pass. She *could* have let things go as planned, without interference. She *could* have let Diana marry Fred. She refused to let that happen. She wouldn't let it happen! She had to stop it, somehow. She wouldn't let their time together end. She wouldn't let Diana's last name be subsumed by Fred's, a practice that she feared herself. She wouldn't let Diana become Diana Wright! She couldn't stomach that. When Diana told

her that she felt nervous, wondering if she could go through with it, and began to faint, Anne could have said she'd drag her down to the rainwater hogshead and drop her in. She could have told her to have courage and declare that getting married isn't terrible but is something that all women can *survive*.

Under the rules of coverture, women lost their identities upon marrying men, causing them to, legally, become extensions of their husbands. As such, some had to opt out of marrying men entirely, allowing them to retain the money they inherited or earned, buy and sell property, or enter into legal contracts. This led to the rise of what some called a "Boston marriage," with two independent women choosing to build a household and life together. Anne had never thought that far ahead, nor had she ever heard of the term. Despite that, there was one thing she did know: if she let this marriage go forward, she'd be devastated. It would ruin her.

In another world, Diana would tell her dutiful friend that she would have to see how composed she'd be when her turn for marriage came. Anne would describe her as a lovely darling and ask her for a kiss. Diana did what she asked, and said that she would *always* be at her side. However, in this world, Anne took a bold step forward. It was risky, but she felt she had to do it. "Di, you don't have to go through with this...you could come with me...we could run away *together*." Her friend looked at her like she had seven heads. How could she be saying this, *at a time like this*? What would the people there think? Why was Anne even suggesting this? Did she not want this for her?

"My dear, sweet Anne, what are you trying to tell me? That I shouldn't get married? But Fred is so very handsome...and I..." Her friend shook her head. Perhaps she was being selfish. Sure, she wasn't *supposed* to do something like this. She couldn't let anyone tell her how to feel or reveal her inner thoughts. Her feelings toward Diana were a tangled knot of emotions. Growing up was a frightening prospect. She wasn't sure about change, with all she'd gone through. Perhaps she would never grow out of her fear of things changing. Perhaps she'd stick with comfortability, on some level, above anything else. That was okay.

"...we can be together, forever, Di, happily ever after...isn't that what all those romance novels you read say?" Her friend chuckled. Anne was acting weirdly now. She wanted her to walk away from all of this? How could she? "Are you asking me to be your wife?" she asked pointedly. Anne moved her head from side to side. That wasn't what she wanted at all. Her friend had it all wrong. She wasn't thinking about this the right way. She had to set her straight. "No, that's not my request at all. Rather, I am asking for us to renew our vows as *friends*, to re-pledge ourselves as eternal companions...for one another."

Diana somewhat understood what she was saying, but she *still* felt something for Fred. She couldn't just leave her friend hanging. She was unsure how to reply, except she uttered one word: "okay." Anne knew that if she left out of the door and walked down the stairs with her friend, everyone would see them. So, she only had one option to escape: the window. She scooped up Diana in a princess carry and smashed through the window, to Diana's horror. *What in the world was her friend doing!* As the glass shards fell around her, she looked at her friend with admiration and devotion. Anne would go through so much ridicule for this. She knew that for sure.

The people nearby were in shock at the loud sound. Anne was completely bloodied from the encounter. Diana was going to say something, but without a second thought, Anne unhitched a horse from the wagon, which was supposed to carry Diana and her groom. She jumped atop it. Following her friend's instructions, she grabbed her firmly around the stomach. Smacking the horse on the side, Anne caused it to lurch forward. She wasn't sure how this would go. Luckily the horse was compliant enough to go along with her commands. It galloped away from the house as people looked at both of them in utter disbelief. What in the world was Diana doing? And Anne? *No one knew.*

They could have made their way to the garden, which had been full of mellow sunset light, streaming through the old, dark, firs, where they had once gazed at each over-magnificent tiger lily. They could have traveled through the scary deep forest, which both called the Haunted Wood, because they imagined it was haunted. Going back to the garden, with it's bountiful flowers and prim pathways, much of which sat in the shade, would not be right. Instead, they headed to the woods, where Anne and Gilbert had once walked, together. Diana did not know the place, but she trusted Anne. Although no one was chasing after them, they were both still in a daze over what had happened already.

They finally reached their destination: a beautiful blooming tree. It was filled with delicious, red fruit, particularly apples. White flowers filled the air, floating in the nice, calm breeze. Acting almost like a gentleman, Anne helped Diana off the horse, which she tied to a nearby branch. The horse minded its own business as it began eating some of the nearby rotten apples.

In awe of what was around her, she didn't notice Anne leaning down on one knee. "Oh, Di, you are a kindred spirit, with your soulful eyes, and caring spirit. Ever since that day in your splendid garden, I have come to see you as not just a friend, but someone that I cannot live without. I deeply care for you, as much as you do for me. I connect with you deeply in a way that I cannot with anyone else and confide in you when times get tough. You mean more to me than I've ever known. I adore your smile, your laugh, the way you look at me, and promise to be true to you, to share my hopes, dreams, and thoughts."

She then popped the question. She came up with it on the spot, almost, but also drew from some novel she had been writing. "Do you swear to remain faithful, no matter what happens between us, as my dearest, most treasured bosom friend, to support, honor, and encourage each other, to remind you of what you forgot, to be honest, to accept you, to be your own person, and to be mine, and no one else's, until death do us part?" Although this was a bit long and somewhat clunky, her friend could see she had really thought about it. She excitedly chirped. "I do!" She asked the same question of her friend. "Yes, I do, my sweet Di." Certainly she was a *queer* girl, in the sense that she was weird. She could be queer in the *other way*, as well, although no one had begun using that word like that, apart from using it as a pejorative. Anne suddenly exclaimed, "you may now kiss your *bestest* friend!"

Diana did just that. She couldn't stop herself from expressing her affection with this young woman. It did not follow how affection was usually defined. They had an unbreakable bond of personal, and emotional, commitment to be at each other's side, no matter what for the rest of their lives. Anne firmly held her friend's hand, and smiled, then lovingly kissed her friend on the forehead. Perhaps some people would see this kind of thing as unnecessary and over

the top, saying it wasn't needed. For them it wasn't. However, there was one qualifier: they'd never do this in public. They didn't want others to see. This was something which was all their own and between *only* them.

Each of them had some level of attraction to each other, but not in the "usual" way. For one. Anne appreciated the beauty and appearance of Diana. She wanted physical contact with her, at times, including cuddling and hugging. Diana felt a similar way toward Anne. At the same time, on a certain level, Diana was drawn to Anne due to her personality, rather than physical appearance. As each of them began to learn more about the world, they wanted to engage with each other intellectually, through debate and conversation. Neither one, was, however, jealous when other friends were mentioned. Some, in similar relationships, did get jealous, leading to unnecessary tensions.

Anne and Diana, in this moment, did not mind smashing apart social norms by having a strong bond and emotional attachment, one that could not be easily stuffed into a box. There were no romantic, sexual, or erotic elements to it, and it was the opposite of how some saw friendship: as non-committed, short-term, and fleeing. Anne *insisted* it be exclusive. She didn't want Diana to marry a man under any circumstances. She knew about the assumption that romantic love was a "universal" desire, but she didn't care about that. She'd rather give Diana kisses on her cheek, hold hands, sit in her lap, and cuddle. She wasn't sure about pecks on the lips, sleeping together, or seeing each other naked, however. Even so, she saw Diana as her life partner. There is no doubt that Diana felt similarly despite her romantic attraction to Fred.

Some would say there was no such thing as happily ever and that there was always more work to do, as some magical kid with a diamond in his belly had once said to a cartoonish, revenge-filled extraterrestrial being who wanted to murder him and destroy the entire planet. Neither Diana or Anne thought of it that way. No matter what happened next and no matter the consequences, they'd be together. They'd be ready every day to confront new challenges, to stand side by side against anything the world threw at them, to push back against *anything* which knocked them down. For Anne and Diana, happily ever after would *never* end. They would have a bright future where they both would shine...

End Notes

Dianne is the ship name for Diana and Anne, according to Shipping Wiki. It's also known as DiAnne, with over 170 fics on here for it, with both calling themselves bosom friends or kindred spirits. I used the word "Bosom Friends" per what is listed here. I may use this fic as a model for other "friend-weddings"/"friend celebrations" in future fics, if I choose to write them. Simply, Anne is aesthetically and sensually attracted to Diana, while Diana is emotionally attracted to Anne. You could say they have intellectual attraction toward one another.

I watched the key scenes from the dubbed version. I was inspired to put together the friendship ceremony based on notes by an AO3 user DR_Super_K_Lock for their fic "The Bromance Is Real" saying that "platonic best friend marriage is my new favorite thing," the idea of a so-called "quirk marriage" in the fic "Let All the Lions Threaten Me" (a quirk in the world of My Hero Academia, which is also known as a Meta Ability, is a superhuman power someone can possess, which is unique to each user, and each user can only develop one power or a set of powers but can't achieve any other power through "natural means") or another fic which talks about "best-friend marriage" in the summary.

Chapter 12 of the original 1908 novel by Lucy Maud Montgomery, Anne of Green Gables was helpful in putting together Anne's vow. I hinted at writing this fic in an earlier fic I published this year, "Planning for the Big Day: Aoi and Chiaki's Secret Plan," saying in the end note, "the friendship ceremony would maybe be a bit like a renewal of vows? Like when Anne Shirley and Diana Barry vowed to be bosom friends, they would have a gathering later to renew their feelings for one another or something." That actually gave me the idea to do this. Furthermore, this fic has some elements of "crack" referring to a highly addictive fic, which has a "fundamentally ludicrous premise, or otherwise including a plethora of unbelievable, incredible, or just plain silly elements...implying the author/artist must have been on drugs to produce something so bonkers."

I enjoyed reading the fic for Flufftober which fulfills this same prompt ("And They Lived Happily Ever After"), particularly: "If They Could Love Each Other" by thebatdadnomad (aylooktaekook) (which aimed to make it platonic). When I talk about "some magical kid with a diamond in his belly" I'm referring to Steven Universe, and what he says in the Steven Universe movie to Spinel (who I call "a cartoonish, revenge-filled extraterrestrial being who wanted to murder him and destroy the entire planet") (I went back and forth on how to say this without referring to her BPD, or any disability-related terms with negative connotations, and this was the best I came up with). I reference some lines/vibes of the "Happily Ever After" song.

Sadly, on April 17, after some back-and-forth, the admin of Sunset permanently suspended my account (and removed ALL 35 of my fics, including this one) for mishandling interactions with certain users *even after* I apologized to said users and removed certain passages of two fics. As such, I would **strongly** recommend against *anyone* joining that site, or Superlove, as both admins (Melo/Kat for Superlove, Agnes for Sunset) are friends with each other. Those admins are very particular and not in a good way. I find the whole circumstance deeply unfortunate. I wish it could have been resolved a much better way.

Please drop by the Archive and comment to let the creator know if you enjoyed their work!